

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:164
ANSWERED ON:05.12.2005
POLLUTION CONTROL MEASURES
Sonowal Shri Sarbananda

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government provides funds to control all types of pollution including environmental pollution in the country ;
- (b) If so, whether environmental pollution has not decreased commensurate with the funds spent in this regard ;
- (c) if so, the reasons attributed thereto; and
- (d) the details of action plan chalked out to check increasing pollution ?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI A. RAJA)

(a), (b), (c) & (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED IN REPLY TO PART (a), (b), (c) & (d) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.164 TO BE ANSWERED ON 05.12.2005 REGARDING POLLUTION CONTROL MEASURES BY SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL.

(a) The Union Government provides financial assistance under the following scheme for controlling Environmental pollution:

- i) Abatement of pollution in rivers and lakes;
- ii) Establishment of Common Effluent Treatment Plants;
- iii) Construction for infrastructure facilities for treatment storage and disposal of Solid and Hazardous Waste;
- iv) Monitoring for compliance of Environmental Standards;
- v) Assistance for Abatement of Pollution;
- vi) Grant-in-aid to Central Pollution Control Board

(b)&(c) Due to various abatement and enforcement measures taken, there has been improvement in environmental quality as determined by monitoring independent scientific and technical institutions. In this connection, as regards pollution abatement in rivers, analysis carried out by the Harvard Institute of International Development has observed that in terms of both time and cost involved, the Ganga Action Plan-1 compares favourably with those of major rivers of the world. Similarly, the air quality in all metro cities have shown improvement as a result of various abatement measures undertaken. Monitored data indicate that Sulphur Dioxide and Oxides of Nitrogen which are key air pollutants are currently within notified standards.

(d) The steps initiated to abate pollution include:

- i. Notification and enforcement of emissions and effluent standards for various industries/activities;
- ii. Regular monitoring of environmental quality;
- iii. Issuance of notices/directions to non-complying units;
- iv. Action plans for improvement of air quality in identified polluted cities; and
- v. Implementation of Charter on Corporate Responsibility for Environmental Protection (CREP) for 17 categories of polluting industries.